

W5YI REPORT

Up to the minute news from the worlds of amateur radio, personal computing and emerging electronics. While no guarantee is made, information is from sources we believe to be reliable. May be reproduced providing credit is given to The W5YI Report.

Dits & Bits

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Ham-In-Space Mission Update
Personal Computer News



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Goldwater Introduces Antenna Resolutions

Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, has introduced two resolutions relative to discriminatory and unreasonable local restrictions on home satellite antennas and amateur radio antennas. The Resolutions, which are non-binding on the FCC, were submitted to the Senate on January 3, 1985.

Goldwater said that while these two types of antennas are used for different purposes, "both are encountering a heavy rash of unduly restrictive local ordinances and other regulations that directly conflict with national communications policy and the first amendment interest in the widest possible availability of information of all kinds."

The Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 added a new Section 705 to the Communications Act establishing a clear statutory right of dealers to sell home satellite dish antennas and of consumers to use them for private viewing of unscrambled signals. Goldwater said that even though the legality issue had been answered, "the dish industry is still not out of the woods." He noted that "arbitrary zoning restrictions and onerous license fees might still bring this technology to a halt."

Senate Resolution 35 calls upon the FCC to announce that:

(1.) Local governments should not discriminate unreasonably among satellite dish owners and

other types of home communications reception antennas.

(2.) Local ordinances and licensing authorities shall not prohibit or restrict satellite dishes except when necessary to carry out a specifically identified compelling governmental interest. Compelling means that the burden is on the local government to prove that no less restrictive means will protect the government's interest. "It is the highest constitutional standard that the courts use in scrutinizing a statute of local, State, or Federal governments."

(3.) Local authority should not be used intentionally or incidentally to restrict means of delivering or receiving satellite programming in order to give a competitive advantage to some other means....

"This provision would meet the challenge being presented by some cable companies who are trying to insulate themselves from competition by hiding behind local restrictions on Earth stations." Goldwater stated.

The resolution is compatible with the positions taken by USCI (United Satellite Communications, Inc, the nations only operational Direct Broadcast Satellite programmer) and SPACE (the Society for Private And Commercial Earth stations) which have filed petitions for declaratory rulings by the FCC on the subject.

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SENATE REGULATION 36....

The companion resolution, Senate Resolution 36, related to amateur radio antennas. It urges the FCC to protect its amateur radio licensees against unreasonably restrictive land use and other State and local regulation which would render the communications from such stations impossible or unreliable.

Specifically, the Commission is being asked to exercise its Federal preemptive authority by affirming that States and local regulatory authority must be exercised so as to avoid prohibiting or frustrating the transmission or reception of signals by federally-licensed amateur radio stations.

The exception to that policy would be in cases in which such local regulation is necessary "to carry out a clearly articulated and affirmatively expressed compelling government interest related to the health and safety of the community."

TEXT OF GOLDWATER SENATE ADDRESS....

Addressing the Senate, Goldwater said, "Amateur radio stations, which are operated in licensees' residences, are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission to provide public service and emergency communications for the benefit of citizens of the communities in which they are located."

"Amateurs have proven their value on countless occasions as a result of their technical ability to put together radio stations of extremely high efficiency and reliability. Local civil defense and municipal emergency offices routinely utilize cadres of amateurs to provide communications in local and wide-area emergencies. If municipal governments had to provide the level of services provided free of charge by amateurs, the cost would be prohibitive."

"Yet, even though municipalities rely on amateur radio operators for public service and emergency communications, the amateurs' stations are often rendered useless or unreliable by virtue of overly restrictive municipal antenna ordinances and other land use regulations. These unreasonable restrictions are often

established without any technical understanding of the impact on Commission licensees at all."

"It is seldom that a municipal restriction on amateur radio antennas bears any trace of a basis in safety or health concerns. Certainly such concerns are necessarily within the jurisdiction of municipalities as a exercise of the police power. An antenna restriction which goes beyond those concerns, and which precludes an amateur radio licensee from performing his or her public service function, places the amateur in an adversarial posture with respect to the very community that amateur seeks to serve with public service and emergency communications."

"I have reviewed a number of cases in which amateurs have challenged a municipal zoning restriction which makes it impossible for an amateur to communicate. In these cases, amateurs have expended personal funds, which can never be recouped, in order to defend their ability to operate these radio stations in their homes. Those who cannot afford to pursue legal remedies to challenge an unreasonable ordinance, to pay often expensive filing fees for variance applications, or those who are physically handicapped and cannot physically defend their communications ability must operate with ineffective antennas or not at all."

"The Commission has never stated any intent to preempt local ordinances which prohibit or frustrate amateur radio communications. As a result, courts have found that although amateur radio is a reasonable and normal accessory use of residential real property, it does not matter how severely municipal regulation may restrict amateur communications because the Federal Communications Commission has not exercised Federal preemption over local antenna regulation."

"It is appropriate and timely for the FCC to delineate the limit of local jurisdiction over antenna regulation, which is reached when the local law stands as an obstacle to the full purposes and objectives of Congress."

"Recognizing that judicial relief from unreasonable local restrictions on antennas will not be forthcoming absent a Federal statement

of preemptive authority, the amateur radio community has recently requested that the Commission issue a declaratory ruling to that effect. Organizations such as the American Red Cross, which rely on amateur radio operators routinely, have supported this effort. Over 900 favorable comments have been received to date."

"The purpose of this resolution is to urge the Commission to insure that the Federal interest in effective reliable licensed amateur radio station operation is not impeded by unreasonable local regulation of amateur antenna systems...."

"The balancing of the local police power interest in protection of citizens and the Federal interest in unencumbered interstate and international amateur radio communications will result in more thought and planning invested in municipal antenna regulations so that the needs of amateurs are taken into account."

"As to existing regulations, the Commission action urged by this resolution will permit amateurs to raise Federal preemption in their own behalf and to establish as a matter of technical fact the degree of impairment of communications from an existing antenna regulation."

"Because of the widespread nature of overly restrictive local antenna regulations which disable such a vital public and emergency communication service, it is expected that the Federal Communications Commission will grant administrative relief in accordance with this resolution. If that is not the case, it may be desirable to consider mandatory legislation on the subject."

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INTENTIONAL JAMMING TO GET EXPENSIVE!

The Congressional Record of January 3rd also chronicles other legislation introduced by Goldwater. If adopted, Senate Bill 66 will statutorily prohibit willful and malicious interference to all radio communications.

Noting that the FCC has recorded a significant increase in the number of complaints alleging radio signal jamming, Goldwater said

"There is a great demand for radio spectrum and only a limited amount available. We must insure that we use it wisely and in the public interest. Just one individual can prevent effective communications by many other persons."

"All too often this type of interference can be heard on amateur, citizen's band, marine and other frequencies. But that is not all. This type of interference increasingly is appearing on frequencies used by private land mobile services, public safety services such as police and fire departments and Government communications networks such as those of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Department of Defense."

According to Goldwater, "The present law is neither comprehensive nor clear." He said that the application of present intentional interference laws appears to be limited to FCC licensees with insufficient (maximum \$500) penalties authorized. "By prohibiting this activity on the face of the Communications Act, a violation will be subject to the greater penalties provided by section 501 of the act."

Section 501 provides both for a fine of up to \$10,000 and for imprisonment of up to one year for the first offense and the same fine and up to 2 years' imprisonment for repeated offenses. Under the Sentencing Reform Act of October 1984, the fine was increased to a maximum of \$25,000 for misdemeanors and \$250,000 for felonies.

S.66 will also apply to intentional interference to non-communicative uses such as to authorized radar signals. There are jamming devices on the market which can render police radar units useless. Some are legally sold under the guise of amateur radio equipment which need not be FCC type approved.

Goldwater said that incidental interference such as that caused to stereo, TV and telephone malfunction when operated near radio transmitters would not be covered by the legislation. "More often than not the problem is caused by the improper design of the consumer equipment experiencing the interference. This bill solely applies to purposeful interference caused to be radiated by the violator. Such radiation may include that of the funda-

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AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR EXAMINATION QUESTIONS A booklet containing the FCC Amateur Radio Operator Study Guide and all 1600 actual test questions for all ham classes (Novice through Extra Class) now available for \$2.50 (postpaid) from: THE W5YI REPORT; 1020 Byron Lane; Arlington, TX - 76012 Note our new phone number.... (817) 461-6443

FAST & FURIOUS - A quick news roundup!

●Commodore's new "128" Personal Computer will sell for about \$250. Watch for price cutting on the "64" in order to move them out! The "128" is compatible with and will run all "64" software. It will be available this Spring. Commodore also has a new \$500 "LCD" 80-column 32K lap computer that looks like a winner!

●Interest in the Apple Macintosh has now levelled off. The PC was introduced exactly a year ago and by April had captured 14% of the microcomputer market. The Mac dropped to a 10% share in May and has now levelled off at 9%... still a very healthy share.

●While Apple II's can be exported to the Soviet Union, "Mac" can't go. The U.S. Commerce Department have banned Macintosh exports as the machine is so powerful as to pose a possible military threat if they fall into the wrong hands!

●A note in the January 9th "DX Bulletin" edited by ex-ARRL staffer, Jim Cain, K1TN says that 40 employees have left the League staff for other jobs during 1984 out of a total staff of 110. "Included were about a dozen 'key employees,' some with upwards of 8-10 years of tenure on the staff. The Board of Directors is responsible for most of the unhappiness, according to several of the former employees," Jim wrote.

●Have I got a deal for you! Want to buy some spectrum? Understand the FCC is considering selling it - although not ham frequencies. Supposedly the Commission will ask Congress for authority to auction off unassigned spectrum. Idea is to market the scarce resource to the highest bidder as a substitute for comparative hearings and any necessary lotteries to devide equal applicants.

●Ham Trivia... The QSL card confirming the world's distance record (2,472 miles) on 1296 MHz between (Palos Verdes, CA) N6CA and Hawaiian KH6HME (Paul Lieb) was an engraved coconut! It was accomplished on June 23, 1984.

●And what is sure to be a record, four volunteer examiners have been accredited in

one family by our W5YI VE Program. The Tanner Family, OM Dave W2DT, plus his three children (all Extra Class) -AD2B/Alyson, AD2C-/Mike and AD2D/Joe- were accredited last month. Joe was once the youngest Extra (at 11) and Alyson the youngest YL Extra at 14. (It took me 20 years of hamming to make it!) The Tanners live in Great Neck, New York.

●Cable TV interests are seeking reconsideration and clarification of the FCC's cable leakage rules. It appears that they aren't sure what they have to do. The new Part 76 cable rules adopted last November require cable firms (among other things) to constantly monitor their systems for radiation leakage. About a dozen different petitions have been filed including one from the National Cable Television Association. Leakage from supposedly enclosed cable systems have been a constant source of interference to amateur radio operations... particularly 2-meters. In a separate matter, the FCC has withdrawn consideration of a NPRM that would have relaxed cable signal leakage limits.

●Want to own your own pay phone? You can, you know. Contact: Matrix Marketing Corporation; 6407 Cecilia Circle; Bloomington, MN 55435 (612/944-0577) Their stainless steel unit accepts 25 cents per call and plugs into any modular outlet.

●Three cordless phone distributors, Advanti, Uniden and Dynascan, have each been fined \$2,000 by the FCC for marketing phones different from those approved by the Commission. They were the first caught under the FCC's new "sampling" program initiated just last November.

●Do you have a commercial First Class, Second Class or General Radiotelephone operator license last issued between January 1, 1979 and June 14, 1984. If you do, you qualify for the FCC's new "Lifetime Operator License" certificate. Any eligible licensee can obtain the certificate during 1985 by sending your request to the Field Office that issued your last license. Include your name as it appears on your license, your date of birth, and your license number. Write the words "Lifetime License" above the FCC field offices' address on the envelope. If your present license has an

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AMATEUR RADIO CALL SIGNS....

as of the first of January are as follows:

Radio District	Group "A" Extra	"B" Advan.	"C" Tec/Gen	"D" Novice
0	NH0B	KD0UP	N0FWY	KA0TWN
1	KX1W	KB1QW	N1DIC	KA1MMF
2	NI2N	KD2KS	N2FHM	KA2WKD
3	KU3Y	KC3QM	N3EEZ	KA3NMX
4	AA4HC	KI4XY	N4LHE	KB4MMI
5	NT5W	KE5UZ	N5HOI	KA5VFP
6	WD6Z	KG6NT	N6LJT	KB6HKW
7	NK7S	KE7CS	N7GUA	KA7UHI
8	NK8P	KD8WC	N8GFF	KA8VTD
9	NC9Y	KD9MX	N9EXP	KA9SYE
N.Mariana	AH0D	AH0AC	KH0AG	WH0AAG
Guam	AH2U	AH2BA	KH2BU	WH2AEZ
Johnston Is.	AH3A	AH3AC	KH3AB	WH3AAC
Midway Is.		AH4AA	KH4AD	WH4AAF
Hawaii (*)	WH6V	AH6FX	NH6CY	WH6BCA
Kure Is.			KH7AA	
Amer. Samoa	AH8B	AH8AB	KH8AD	WH8AAO
Wake Wilkes Peale		AH9AB	KH9AB	WH9AAB
Alaska (*)		AL7GK	NL7FB	WL7BFJ
Virgin Is.	KP2L	KP2AT	NP2BF	WP2AEG
Puerto Rico	WP4F	KP4II	NP4MF	WP4DWS

(*) Only 4 more Group "A" format call signs left in Hawaii! After WH6Z is issued, then Extras will be assigned regular Group B calls. Strangely, only five Group "A" format call signs have been issued in Hawaii in the last year so there is no telling when these last four call signs will run out! Extra's in Alaska are already being assigned Group "B" formats.

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FCC RELEASES DECEMBER HAM STATISTICS

Once again the number of amateur radio operator license applications handled by the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, facility

showed a substantial decline. The just-released December statistics show 8,775 applications processed in 1984 versus 11,525 Form 610's handled in December 1983 - a 21.6% decline. (December 1983 declined 3% over December 1982.)

It is taking exactly 3 weeks to process and mail an amateur license once the application is received at Gettysburg. (Allow an additional 3 weeks for your Volunteer Examiner team to get the application to the VEC and for the VEC to forward it to Gettysburg.)

The Commission has also released the Volunteer Examiner statistics for December. The pass rate of VE administered examinations averaged 50% during December - up from November's 48%. We predict that the pass rate will continue to increase once the test manuals that are just now being published are in wide distribution. The system has changed and at least three good question and answer manuals are on the market.

How to read the following table: In the 1st Region, the ARRL held 6 examination sessions at 6 locations. Out of 114 elements administered, 61 were passing - or 53.5% Note that the pass rate percentage is on Elements successfully passed and not the percentage of applicants upgrading.

DECEMBER VE PROGRAM STATISTICS....

Region/ VEC	Sessions/ Locations	Pass/Elem. Administered	% Pass Rate
1. ARRL-1	6/6	61/114	53.5%
2. Metroplex	6/4	119/206	57.8%
ARRL-2	5/5	65/126	51.6%
W5YI-2	1/1	5/5	100.0%
3. Laurel	4/4	61/116	52.6%
ARRL-3	1/1	23/53	43.4%
Mountain	1/1	5/14	35.7%
4. C.Alabama	15/14	130/294	44.2%
W.Carolina	5/5	67/170	39.4%
Mid-South-4	1/1	15/42	37.7%
W5YI-4	2/2	13/26	50.0%
ARRL-4	1/1	12/24	50.0%
Charlotte	2/2	12/23	52.2%

"I am a currently licensed Extra Class amateur radio operator and wish to be a Volunteer Examiner. I have never had my station or under The W5YI Report program. If so, please send a

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER EXAMINER

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Region/ VEC	Sessions/ Locations	Pass/Elem. Administered	% Pass Rate
5. ARRL-5	5/5	63/129	48.8%
Dallas	1/1	30/65	46.2%
W5YI-5	5/5	15/25	60.0%
6. SANDARC	6/4	40/56	71.4%
W5YI-6	2/2	84/111	75.7%
GLAARG	4/4	32/66	48.5%
ARRL-6	2/2	31/48	64.6%
7. ARRL-7	6/6	72/159	45.3%
BEARS	3/3	15/40	37.5%
W5YI-7	1/1	3/7	42.9%
8. DARA	6/6	77/155	49.7%
ARRL-8	4/4	25/66	37.9%
9. DeVry	12/12	119/185	64.3%
ARRL-9	5/5	43/146	29.5%
W5YI-9	1/1	5/7	71.4%
10. ARRL-0	4/4	24/65	36.9%
PHD	1/1	16/38	42.1%
W5YI-0	1/1	10/17	58.8%
11. Anchorage	4/3	32/75	42.7%
12. ARRL-12	1/1	14/15	93.3%
13. Honolulu	4/1	14/25	56.0%
Koolau	1/1	6/12	50.0%
36 VECs	130/121	1363/2741	49.7%

THAT 30-DAY NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

While we are on the subject of the VE program, I should mention that the write-up I did in the previous issue about the FCC eliminating the 30-day advance notification requirement before ham exams can be administered has caused quite a controversy! As a VEC in all Regions, we requested that the Personal Radio Branch modify or provide for waivers of this rule to speed up examination administration and reduce the paperwork burden.

I spoke to the Personal Radio Branch around Christmas time and was told that the FCC agreed with me... that this requirement was being eliminated. Shortly thereafter, we received new written VEC instructions with an

effective date of January 1, 1985. The FCC's previous notification requirements were indeed eliminated. It was at that point that we wrote about the change.

The League's General Manager brought to my attention that even though the VEC instructions eliminated the notification rule, it was mandated in Part 97. This meant that a Commission sanctioned rule change had to be initiated. Johnny Johnston, W3BE, (FCC Chief, Personal Radio Branch) confirmed this to me during mid-January.

I spoke to the Personal Radio Branch's John Small on Friday, January 25th, and was told that the official Part 97 rule change eliminating the 30 day advance notification requirement was "being handled via the circulation route." Minor rule changes can be handled by circulating the change for each Commissioner to sign rather than have the issue brought up at an open FCC Commission Meeting. John Small said that the "circulation" was nearly complete and that the 30 day notification would be "officially" eliminated shortly.

I asked Small why the VEC volunteer program instructions were changed effective January 1st if indeed they weren't. He had no answer for that. It apparently was a "goof" on someone's part.

NOT-FOT-EXPORT YAESU TRANSCEIVERS....

Bob McKay, N8ADA, editor of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association's newsletter, "The Carrier" phoned me last week with the following newsworthy story.

"We understand that there are Yaesu 757's "GX" radios being sold that are not the same as the 757 models being advertised nationally. The radios are identical in appearance but do not have the CW filter, will not work on the new WARC bands and can not be serviced in the U.S.A."

Bob also said that the manuals are also different that those furnished with models made for sale in the U.S. It appears at this time that someone has imported some transceivers made for sale only in Japan. While the radios may have been illegally imported into

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2	NI2N	KD2KS	N2FHM	KA2WKD
3	KU3Y	KC3QM	N3EEZ	KA3NMX
4	AA4HC	KI4XY	N4LHE	KB4MMI
5	NT5W	KE5UZ	N5HOI	KA5VFP
6	WD6Z	KG6NT	N6LJT	KB6HKW
7	NK7S	KE7CS	N7GUA	KA7UHI
8	NK8P	KD8WC	N8GFF	KA8VTD
9	NC9Y	KD9MX	N9EXP	KA9SYE
N.Mariana	AH0D	AH0AC	KH0AG	WH0AAG
Guam	AH2U	AH2BA	KH2BU	WH2AEZ
Johnston Is.	AH3A	AH3AC	KH3AB	WH3AAC
Midway Is.		AH4AA	KH4AD	WH4AAF
Hawaii (*)	WH6V	AH6FX	NH6CY	WH6BCA
Kure Is.			KH7AA	
Amer. Samoa	AH8B	AH8AB	KH8AD	WH8AAO
Wake Wilkes Peale		AH9AB	KH9AB	WH9AAB
Alaska (*)		AL7GK	NL7FB	WL7BFJ
Virgin Is.	KP2L	KP2AT	NP2BF	WP2AEG
Puerto Rico	WP4F	KP4II	NP4MF	WP4DWS

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W5YI-2	1/1	5/5	100.0%
3. Laurel	4/4	61/116	52.6%
ARRL-3	1/1	23/53	43.4%
Mountain	1/1	5/14	35.7%
4. C.Alabama	15/14	130/294	44.2%
W.Carolina	5/5	67/170	39.4%
Mid-South-4	1/1	15/42	37.7%
W5YI-4	2/2	13/26	50.0%
ARRL-4	1/1	12/24	50.0%
Charlotte	2/2	12/23	52.2%

"I am a currently licensed Extra Class amateur radio operator and wish to be a Volunteer Examiner. I have never had my station or operator license revoked or suspended. I do not own a significant interest in nor am an employee of any company or entity engaged in making, preparing or distributing amateur radio equipment or license preparation materials. My age is at least 18 years old."

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February 1, 1985

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Dallas	1/1	30/65	46.2%
W5YI-5	5/5	15/25	60.0%
6. SANDARC	6/4	40/56	71.4%
W5YI-6	2/2	84/111	75.7%
GLAARG	4/4	32/66	48.5%
ARRL-6	2/2	31/48	64.6%
7. ARRL-7	6/6	72/159	45.3%
BEARS	3/3	15/40	37.5%
W5YI-7	1/1	3/7	42.9%
8. DARA	6/6	77/155	49.7%
ARRL-8	4/4	25/66	37.9%
9. DeVry	12/12	119/185	64.3%
ARRL-9	5/5	43/146	29.5%
W5YI-9	1/1	5/7	71.4%
10. ARRL-0	4/4	24/65	36.9%
PHD	1/1	16/38	42.1%
W5YI-0	1/1	10/17	58.8%
11. Anchorage	4/3	32/75	42.7%
12. ARRL-12	1/1	14/15	93.3%
13. Honolulu	4/1	14/25	56.0%
Koolau	1/1	6/12	50.0%
36 VECs	130/121	1363/2741	49.7%

THAT 30-DAY NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

While we are on the subject of the VE program, I should mention that the write-up I did in the previous issue about the FCC eliminating the 30-day advance notification requirement before ham exams can be administered has caused quite a controversy! As a VEC in all Regions, we requested that the Personal Radio Branch modify or provide for waivers of this rule to speed up examination administration and reduce the paperwork burden.

I spoke to the Personal Radio Branch around Christmas time and was told that the FCC agreed with me... that this requirement was being eliminated. Shortly thereafter, we received new written VEC instructions with an

effective date of January 1, 1985. The FCC's previous notification requirements were indeed eliminated. It was at that point that we wrote about the change.

The League's General Manager brought to my attention that even though the VEC instructions eliminated the notification rule, it was mandated in Part 97. This meant that a Commission sanctioned rule change had to be initiated. Johnny Johnston, W3BE, (FCC Chief, Personal Radio Branch) confirmed this to me during mid-January.

I spoke to the Personal Radio Branch's John Small on Friday, January 25th, and was told that the official Part 97 rule change eliminating the 30 day advance notification requirement was "being handled via the circulation route." Minor rule changes can be handled by circulating the change for each Commissioner to sign rather than have the issue brought up at an open FCC Commission Meeting. John Small said that the "circulation" was nearly complete and that the 30 day notification would be "officially" eliminated shortly.

I asked Small why the VEC volunteer program instructions were changed effective January 1st if indeed they weren't. He had no answer for that. It apparently was a "goof" on someone's part.

NOT-FOT-EXPORT YAESU TRANSCEIVERS....

Bob McKay, N8ADA, editor of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association's newsletter, "The Carrier" phoned me last week with the following newsworthy story.

"We understand that there are Yaesu 757's "GX" radios being sold that are not the same as the 757 models being advertised nationally. The radios are identical in appearance but do not have the CW filter, will not work on the new WARC bands and can not be serviced in the U.S.A."

Bob also said that the manuals are also different that those furnished with models made for sale in the U.S. It appears at this time that someone has imported some transceivers made for sale only in Japan. While the radios may have been illegally imported into

the U.S., they could be "legal" since most ham gear need not be type approved by the FCC. The U.S. version radio can be purchased cheaper in Japan. The "stripped down" or "not-for-export model" is even cheaper.

"It appears that this type of radio is being unloaded on unsuspecting hams looking for a bargain," Bob said. It is reported that the shipping containers have markings indicating that the radio can only be repaired in Japan. This could be removed or covered, however. So know your dealer and beware of guys with a "real deal" for you.

Amateurs who have gotten stuck with these radios are reluctant to talk about it. There is apparently quite a quantity of them around. It is rumored that the transceivers came from a dealer in the southeast who is not a regular Yaesu dealer.

BAY AREA FCC KEPT BUSY DURING 1984!

The U.S. Coast Guard has long been plagued by false reports of accidents on waterways. An FCC campaign on the west coast has yielded at least one culprit.

Using his CB radio, David Perez-Mendez broadcast fake distress signals from his car parked in a Berkeley marina that kept the Bay Area rescue fleet busy for an entire morning! The Berkeley, California, man pleaded guilty to transmitting false marine distress signals.

Perez-Mendez faced a \$10,000 fine and a year in jail but was only assessed \$300 by Magistrate Frederick Woelflen and placed on probation for two years.

In other enforcement efforts, the San Francisco FCC region:

(1.) - Fined Francis P. Allen, Sr. (KB6DPX) of San Jose, CA, \$1000 for operating SSB outside the 10-meter ham band. He surrendered his Novice ticket.

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If S.66 is not sufficient to convince those that engage in jamming to cease doing so, Goldwater is prepared to introduce even tougher legislation authorizing seizure of the interfering equipment and permanent disqualification from being a commission licensee in the future.

AMATEUR RADIO CALL SIGNS....

as of the first of January are as follows:

Radio District	Group "A" Extra	"B" Advan.	"C" Tec/Gen	"D" Novice
0	NH0B	KD0UP	N0FWY	KA0TWN
1	KX1W	KB1QW	N1DIC	KA1MMF
2	NI2N	KD2KS	N2FHM	KA2WKD
3	KU3Y	KC3QM	N3EEZ	KA3NMX
4	AA4HC	KI4XY	N4LHE	KB4MMI
5	NT5W	KE5UZ	N5HOI	KA5VFP
6	WD6Z	KG6NT	N6LJT	KB6HKW
7	NK7S	KE7CS	N7GUA	KA7UHI
8	NK8P	KD8WC	N8GFF	KA8VTD
9	NC9Y	KD9MX	N9EXP	KA9SYE
N.Mariana	AH0D	AH0AC	KH0AG	WH0AAG
Guam	AH2U	AH2BA	KH2BU	WH2AEZ
Johnston Is.	AH3A	AH3AC	KH3AB	WH3AAC
Midway Is.		AH4AA	KH4AD	WH4AAF
Hawaii (*)	WH6V	AH6FX	NH6CY	WH6BCA
Kure Is.			KH7AA	
Amer. Samoa	AH8B	AH8AB	KH8AD	WH8AAO
Wake Wilkes Peale		AH9AB	KH9AB	WH9AAB
Alaska (*)		AL7GK	NL7FB	WL7BFJ
Virgin Is.	KP2L	KP2AT	NP2BF	WP2AEG
Puerto Rico	WP4F	KP4II	NP4MF	WP4DWS

(*) Only 4 more Group "A" format call signs left in Hawaii! After WH6Z is issued, then Extras will be assigned regular Group B calls. Strangely, only five Group "A" format call signs have been issued in Hawaii in the last year so there is no telling when these last four call signs will run out! Extra's in Alaska are already being assigned Group "B" formats.

FCC RELEASES DECEMBER HAM STATISTICS

Once again the number of amateur radio operator license applications handled by the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, facility

showed a substantial decline. The just-released December statistics show 8,775 applications processed in 1984 versus 11,525 Form 610's handled in December 1983 - a 21.6% decline. (December 1983 declined 3% over December 1982.)

It is taking exactly 3 weeks to process and mail an amateur license once the application is received at Gettysburg. (Allow an additional 3 weeks for your Volunteer Examiner team to get the application to the VEC and for the VEC to forward it to Gettysburg.)

The Commission has also released the Volunteer Examiner statistics for December. The pass rate of VE administered examinations averaged 50% during December - up from November's 48%. We predict that the pass rate will continue to increase once the test manuals that are just now being published are in wide distribution. The system has changed and at least three good question and answer manuals are on the market.

How to read the following table: In the 1st Region, the ARRL held 6 examination sessions at 6 locations. Out of 114 elements administered, 61 were passing - or 53.5% Note that the pass rate percentage is on Elements successfully passed and not the percentage of applicants upgrading.

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There is also a short discussion as to why the answer is correct. Cost is \$4.95 (plus \$1.00 postage) from: AMECO; 220 East Jericho Turnpike; Mineola, NY 11501. Marty advises that future revisions of the Element 3 (Technician/General) version will have this new format. He also said that he would have the Extra Class test manual available about March.

THE RADIO AMATEUR'S LICENSE MANUAL is completely new. Edited by Charles L. Hutchinson, K8CH, it contains all 1600 FCC approved questions in the Element 3 (Tech/General), Element 4A (Advanced) and Element 4B (Extra Class) examinations. The questions are presented in a multiple choice format and the right answer identified in the back of the book.

The test questions/answers/distractors are the exact ones that appear in the tests and I simply can't see any amateur failing once they have read this book!

You should be aware, however, that the FCC revises every written examination once a year. Even though the ARRL just published their book, it contains the previous Element 3 version questions. A newly revised list of Tech/General questions was released by the FCC in November - too late to be incorporated in the ARRL's new license manual. The old questions can only be used through April 30, 1985. We also understand that new Advanced Class questions (with only a few changes) will be released this month.

The Radio Amateur License Manual also contains much additional helpful technical and operating information to give the applicant a better understanding of what should be known. Cost of the book is: \$4.00 plus \$1.00 postage/-handling from: ARRL; 225 Main Street; Newington, CT 06111

THE FCC RULE BOOK is a companion volume which covers the amateur radio regulatory area in an easy to read manner. Data in this newly

updated (blue cover) version by Rick Palm, K1CE coincides with recent FCC rule changes. Cost: \$3.00 plus \$1.00 postage/handling from ARRL.

As I have said before, once applicants obtain the right study information, examination pass rates will dramatically improve! The above three books - along with Gordon West's \$19.95 license manuals are the right material. The amateur radio operator test system has changed 180 degrees. It is now not unlike taking the written portion of a state automobile driving test. You simply study the questions and answers and respond to those selected. Don't take a volunteer test until you at least have reviewed the ARRL's license manual. We will continue to keep you updated on license preparation study material.

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W5YI REPORT.....

Page #9

February 1, 1985

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the FCC's approved question pool, the complete (ARRL version) multiple-choice answer and distractors (wrong answers). The League's multiple choice questions/answers/distractors have become the de facto ham test standard.

There is also a short discussion as to why the answer is correct. Cost is \$4.95 (plus \$1.00 postage) from: AMECO; 220 East Jericho Turnpike; Mineola, NY 11501. Marty advises that future revisions of the Element 3 (Technician/General) version will have this new format. He also said that he would have the Extra Class test manual available about March.

THE RADIO AMATEUR'S LICENSE MANUAL is completely new. Edited by Charles L. Hutchinson, K8CH, it contains all 1600 FCC approved questions in the Element 3 (Tech/General), Element 4A (Advanced) and Element 4B (Extra Class) examinations. The questions are presented in a multiple choice format and the right answer identified in the back of the book.

The test questions/answers/distractors are the exact ones that appear in the tests and I simply can't see any amateur failing once they have read this book!

You should be aware, however, that the FCC revises every written examination once a year. Even though the ARRL just published their book, it contains the previous Element 3 version questions. A newly revised list of Tech/General questions was released by the FCC in November - too late to be incorporated in the ARRL's new license manual. The old questions can only be used through April 30, 1985. We also understand that new Advanced Class questions (with only a few changes) will be released this month.

The Radio Amateur License Manual also contains much additional helpful technical and operating information to give the applicant a better understanding of what should be known. Cost of the book is: \$4.00 plus \$1.00 postage/handling from: ARRL; 225 Main Street; Newington, CT 06111

THE FCC RULE BOOK is a companion volume which covers the amateur radio regulatory area in an easy to read manner. Data in this newly

updated (blue cover) version by Rick Palm, K1CE coincides with recent FCC rule changes. Cost: \$3.00 plus \$1.00 postage/handling from ARRL.

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SENATE REGULATION 36....

The companion resolution, Senate Resolution 36, related to amateur radio antennas. It urges the FCC to protect its amateur radio licensees against unreasonably restrictive land use and other State and local regulation which would render the communications from such stations impossible or unreliable.

Specifically, the Commission is being asked to exercise its Federal preemptive authority by affirming that States and local regulatory authority must be exercised so as to avoid prohibiting or frustrating the transmission or reception of signals by federally-licensed amateur radio stations.

The exception to that policy would be in cases in which such local regulation is necessary "to carry out a clearly articulated and affirmatively expressed compelling government interest related to the health and safety of the community."

TEXT OF GOLDWATER SENATE ADDRESS....

Addressing the Senate, Goldwater said, "Amateur radio stations, which are operated in licensees' residences, are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission to provide public service and emergency communications for the benefit of citizens of the communities in which they are located."

"Amateurs have proven their value on countless occasions as a result of their technical ability to put together radio stations of extremely high efficiency and reliability. Local civil defense and municipal emergency offices routinely utilize cadres of amateurs to provide communications in local and wide-area emergencies. If municipal governments had to provide the level of services provided free of charge by amateurs, the cost would be prohibitive."

"Yet, even though municipalities rely on amateur radio operators for public service and emergency communications, the amateurs' stations are often rendered useless or unreliable by virtue of overly restrictive municipal antenna ordinances and other land use regulations. These unreasonable restrictions are often

established without any technical understanding of the impact on Commission licensees at all."

"It is seldom that a municipal restriction on amateur radio antennas bears any trace of a basis in safety or health concerns. Certainly such concerns are necessarily within the jurisdiction of municipalities as an exercise of the police power. An antenna restriction which goes beyond those concerns, and which precludes an amateur radio licensee from performing his or her public service function, places the amateur in an adversarial posture with respect to the very community that amateur seeks to serve with public service and emergency communications."

"I have reviewed a number of cases in which amateurs have challenged a municipal zoning restriction which makes it impossible for an amateur to communicate. In these cases, amateurs have expended personal funds, which can never be recouped, in order to defend their ability to operate these radio stations in their homes. Those who cannot afford to pursue legal remedies to challenge an unreasonable ordinance, to pay often expensive filing fees for variance applications, or those who are physically handicapped and cannot physically defend their communications ability must operate with ineffective antennas or not at all."

"The Commission has never stated any intent to preempt local ordinances which prohibit or frustrate amateur radio communications. As a result, courts have found that although amateur radio is a reasonable and normal accessory use of residential real property, it does not matter how severely municipal regulation may restrict amateur communications because the Federal Communications Commission has not exercised Federal preemption over local antenna regulation."

"It is appropriate and timely for the FCC to delineate the limit of local jurisdiction over antenna regulation, which is reached when the local law stands as an obstacle to the full purposes and objectives of Congress."

"Recognizing that judicial relief from unreasonable local restrictions on antennas will not be forthcoming absent a Federal statement

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endorsement, you must submit a copy of the license with your request. Enclose a business size SASE. (If you want your certificate unfolded, send a 9X12 inch SASE.)

●The UHF-TV band may take the pressure off of the 220-MHz ham band as future expansion spectrum for the overcrowded Land Mobile Service. The February 1st "Radio Communications Report", a semi-monthly Land Mobile trade sheet, tells about the "FCC looking into TV, land mobile sharing." Robert Foosaner, Private Radio Bureau Chief, is quoted as saying that "We hope something will happen on this in the next three months..." It has not been determined whether the matter will come before the Commission as a Notice of Inquiry or an NPRM. The Land Mobile Communications Council has already filed a petition requesting the FCC to allow spectrum sharing with UHF-TV.

●Electronic Mail hasn't exactly taken off. In fact, the U.S. Postal Service has taken a multi-million dollar red ink bath trying to get it going and will discontinue their version. Now comes word that giant AT&T will try their hand at it. Using a personal computer "AT&T Mail" can be routed via a modem to an electronic mailbox for storage and later download by the receiver at any time. If the recipient doesn't have a PC, messages can be retrieved by dialling a toll-free number and punching in a "mailbox code." A computer-generated voice then reads the messages.

●Rep. Collins (D-IL) is concerned that new telecommunications technologies could have an adverse impact on personal privacy. He introduced HR.293 last month into Congress which asks the NTIA (National Telecommunications and Information Administration) to study this.

●You will remember the story we did in the January 1st issue on the U.S. "pirate" ship anchored off of the coast of England broadcasting music to five million Western Europeans. Some enterprising U.S. investors decided that there was no law against broadcasting from international waters and started a combination DJ/advertising business. It has been unbelievably successful. British authorities are really up in arms about Radio Laser which continues to rock-and-roll. Now comes word of a tape recorded conversation that was recently

sent to the "Daily Mail," a London newspaper tabloid. The tape contains a private conversation about mercenaries being hired to overrun the ship and wreck its transmitters. One of the voices on the tape has been traced to a competing English radio station director. Meanwhile, the American DJs aboard Radio Laser are taking full advantage of the cloak and dagger publicity by running a daily mini-soap opera called "High Seas Piracy" complete with battle sounds and screaming disc jockeys!

●The January 15th "Wall Street Journal" tells about the possibility of ex-ham gear manufacturer, R. L. Drake Company, going public. The Miamisburg, Ohio, firm now derives its income from manufacture of satellite receivers.

ASTRONAUT TONY ENGLAND'S HAM MISSION

Ham Astronaut Tony England's, W4ORE, "51F Spacelab 2" flight of the space shuttle "Challenger" is now set for July 9th. This date depends, however, on the ability of Kennedy Space Center technicians to replace approximately 4,200 thermal protection tiles on the orbiter.

England is scheduled to not only operate Owen Garriott's hand-held radio in space, but also to try his hand at ten meter slow-scan ATV. I spoke to Tony this past weekend and he tells me that everything is pretty much on schedule, but that replacing the tiles is running about two days behind.

"The ham equipment is in good shape. Radio contacts will consist mostly of schedules with school or amateur radio clubs." Tony suggested that groups or individuals interested in contacting him should contact the ARRL since they were acting as his coordinator. "About two months before launch - about the middle of May - I'll have a good flight plan and I'll work with the ARRL and see how to best fit everybody in."

Tony said that Spacelab 3 would be going up before Spacelab 2. I was also told that Owen Garriott, W5LFL, would be going back in space aboard "EOM"... an observation mission, but that it did not look like that would take place this year.